

# WQARF Factsheet



[www.adeq.state.az.us](http://www.adeq.state.az.us)

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## Miracle Mile Site

### Site Description

The Miracle Mile Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site is located in the west area of Tucson between Roger Road to the north, Prince Road to the south, Bottletree Lane to the west and Flowing Wells Road to the east.

WQARF is a program established by the Arizona State Legislature to conduct statewide surface and groundwater monitoring, study health effects of contamination, perform emergency remedial actions and conduct site investigations and long-term remediations. The WQARF program is funded with state monies and funds recovered from parties responsible for contamination.

Groundwater at the Miracle Mile WQARF Site is contaminated with trichloroethene (TCE) and chromium, both occurring over regulatory limits.

### Site History

In the fall of 1983, groundwater was found to be contaminated at the Tratel Trailer Park, located to the southwest of the present Miracle Mile WQARF Site. The Letter of Intent proposing that remedial action be taken in the Miracle Mile Interchange Area was submitted by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) in June of 1987.

From 1985-89, the first phase of the Miracle Mile site investigations focused on obtaining background on conditions in the study area. These activities included soil and groundwater sampling, identification of facilities in the area of contamination, and distribution of survey questionnaires to these facilities.

The second phase of site investigations began in 1989 and included facility inspections, facility record searches, reissuance of questionnaires, installation of nine monitor wells, and continuing groundwater sampling and monitoring. The area of groundwater contamination for the Miracle Mile Site was reduced from about 20 square miles to approximately 10 square miles based on the results of these site investigations.

In August 1995, ADEQ abandoned two private wells in the Miracle Mile area. A perched aquifer contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) was present in both wells. Water from this perched aquifer was cascading through the well bores and potentially contributing to the contamination of the deeper regional aquifer.

A public comment period for placing the Miracle Mile Site on the WQARF Registry was held from March 23 to May 1, 1998. A responsiveness summary was completed and

the site was placed on the Registry in September 1998.

Ten additional monitor wells were installed in 2001 to help determine the nature and extent of groundwater contamination in the perched and regional aquifers.

During 2001-2002, ADEQ conducted a passive soil gas survey followed by additional soil and active soil gas sampling to identify any areas with significant soil contamination.

### **Site Investigation/Cleanup Action**

ADEQ is currently conducting the Remedial Investigation as part of the WQARF Site remediation process. The remedial investigation will be followed by a feasibility study to evaluate and select the appropriate cleanup option to protect groundwater resources at the Miracle Mile WQARF Site. Quarterly groundwater sampling and monthly water level measurements began in May 1999, and will continue throughout the Feasibility Study.

### **Potential Health Effects**

The Arizona Department of Health Services completed a Draft Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment in January 1995. No significant health risks associated with this site have been identified at this time.

None of the water that contains contaminants over regulatory limits is known to be used for drinking water supplies. Therefore, no one is known to be at risk of exposure to these ground-

water contaminants.

The local water provider is using groundwater from outside the Miracle Mile WQARF Site in order to ensure safe drinking water is delivered to the community.

Although contaminated water is not being used, cleanup activities are important to ensure future drinking water supplies.

### **For More Information...**

For further information about the Miracle Mile WQARF Site, please call Matt Doolen, ADEQ Project Manager at (520) 628-6722.

For information about community involvement or the Miracle Mile Community Advisory Board, established to discuss cleanup issues at the WQARF Site, contact Eileen Palese, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, at (520) 628-6712.

*Copies of pertinent reports are placed in the site information repository at the Woods Library, 3455 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in Tucson, as they become available.*

For information about any WQARF Site, visit the ADEQ Web site at [www.adeq.state.az.us](http://www.adeq.state.az.us). Click on Environmental Programs on the left, then click on Waste Programs Division, scroll down to Superfund (WQARF/NPL) Programs, and follow the prompts for the information you need.